

April 11, 2014

Weekly Views

"Ooh's" and "Aah's" could be heard throughout the Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) when two new puppies, Justice and Jaeger, (pictured below) joined the Indiana Canine Assistance Network (ICAN) program. The puppies are a mixture of Golden and Labrador Retrievers, extremely smart and just too cute to resist. They will begin their training immediately with specially selected offenders who have themselves gone through training to learn how to interact and train the dogs. Using only positive reinforcement, the offenders teach basic commands,

how to walk on leash, not to be afraid of a wheelchair and many other needed skills for working with disabled individuals. After completing five to six months of training the puppies will leave CIF and begin more extensive training at another IDOC facility.



Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) staff talked jobs with Indiana State University (ISU) students during the 2014 ISU Criminology Fair. Terre Haute Parole, Central Office, Putnamville, Rockville and Wabash Valley Correctional Facility personnel joined forces, encouraging graduates to consider a meaningful career with the IDOC. Many undergraduate students expressed strong interest in internships and all were surprised about the types of jobs available within the Department. ISU students who visited the IDOC booth also learned more about our commitment to programming as offenders prepare to re-enter society. Over 30 agencies from across the state participated in the well attended job fair on the ISU campus.



Miami Correctional Facility will spend April recruiting staff at four job fairs in the area. The first one was April 7 at Ivy Tech in Marion, IN. Human Resources and other staff will be attending job fairs at IU Kokomo/Ivy Tech on April 15; IU Kokomo Law Enforcement Career Day on April 17 and the Heroes for Hire at the VA Medical Center in Marion, IN on April 24. (Pictured below are Lieutenant Craig Stoll and Lieutenant Lori Barkas who represented the facility at the Ivy Tech Job Fair in Marion.)

Nathaniel Grandberry and Amanda Kisse were at the Indiana Women's Prison to administer the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) to 18 offenders. This was the first of many occasions they will perform this service. They gave the offenders the Career Exploration version of a test that the military uses to place new recruits. This will be a valuable asset to the offenders in their future job searches.

Representatives from the State Budget Agency spent time walking through the Westville Correctional Facility's (WCC) physical plant. During their review, (pictured below, L to R) IDOC Executive Director of Construction Services Kevin Orme, WCC Engineer Mark Wilson, WCC Physical Plant Director Ray Nornes, WCC Engineer Corey Simic, and State Budget Agency Director Brian Bailey recognized Wilson and Simic with Cash Spot Bonuses for saving Indiana over a quarter million dollars on a recent extensive power plant repair project.

The Pendleton Correctional Complex conducted its annual Easter Egg Hunt for employees and their families. Easter egg hunts were organized for different age groups for children ranging in age from 1 to 13. The event drew over 200 people including approximately 80 children. Easter egg baskets donated by Aramark were given away as prizes and coloring books were given to each child in attendance. The Easter Bunny was present for the event and approximately 1,500 eggs were prepared by staff for the hunt that was conducted at the Complex Recreation Area located at the quarry.



Aramark held an employee recognition luncheon at the Indiana State Prison. Superintendent William K. Wilson and Assistant Superintendent Dan McBride were present and spoke to the staff. Aramark Supervisor Wayne Peeples gave coins to the long-time employees.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a "Peanut Butter for Haiti" Drive at the facility that staff, students and their families participated in. The facility was able to collect 164 total jars of peanut butter for the project. Out of the collection there were 131 jars donated by staff and 33 by students and their families. The donations were given to Real Hope For Haiti representative Rev. Ken Smith.



Four new Sergeants have joined the supervisory ranks at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF). John Wolfe, John Crusie, Preston Swick and Levi Sims will complete their on-the-job training requirements and be assigned their new shifts. Assistant Superintendent/Operations, Frank Littlejohn noted the group possesses strong leadership qualities and will enhance the safety and security of WVCF.